

MINUTES OF THE VERNON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING, HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 2026, AT 6:30 PM, AT THE VERNON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 3050 N MAIN STREET, BUFFALO GROVE, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 by President Noelle Moore.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Noelle Moore led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Member Garfield, Treasurer Hirsch, Member Hossain, Secretary Lewis, President Moore, Vice-President Thoren

Present Remotely: None

Absent: Member Crutchfield

Also Present: Township Staff Member Moody

A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 15, 2026, MEEETING

Member Hirsch made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice-President Thoren seconded the motion.

No Discussion.

The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

7. REPORTS

a. President's Report: Annika Moody was introduced to board members who have not yet met her. The director of the VAPL contacted some board members about One Community, One Book, *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. They provided some materials to the board as the book has themes related to the work of this board. The FY25 Annual Report is available, has been shared with the required persons, is on the website, and notice was published in the newspaper as required.

b. Vice President's Report: None.

c. Secretary's Report: None.

d. Member Reports: Treasurer Hirsch noted that Supervisor Kobler expressed appreciation to the township board about the diligent work of the MHB in grant making decisions. Member Hossain is working on a template to track some of the work of this board.

e. Attorney Report: None.

f. Staff Reports: The financial report was mailed to legislators and DHS. 15 of 17 agencies of round two grants have sent in invoices. Follow up is needed to get two additional agency invoices. There is a new electronic attendance policy that requires the board to allow military service personnel to attend remotely. Staff member Monie would like the Vernon Township staff to take over the quarterly networking meetings and invite the grant recipients, with one meeting occurring in an evening. The township will invite other stakeholders to speak at meetings.

8. PRIOR BUSINESS

No prior business

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Approval of the FY2027 Meeting Calendar

Treasurer Hirsch moved to approve the FY2027 Meeting Calendar seconded by Member Garfield.

Discussion: None

The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

b. Discussion and Approval to Amend the Electronic Attendance Policy

Vice President Thoren moved to approve to Amend the Electronic Attendance Policy, seconded by Treasurer Hirsch.

Discussion: None

Ayes: Member Garfield, Member Hossain, Treasurer Hirsch, Secretary Lewis, President Moore, Vice-President Thoren

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Member Crutchfield

The motion passes.

c. Discussion of the Upcoming Needs Assessment

NIU no longer has the funding to conduct Needs Assessments. We will conduct an RFP to remain consistent with our first Needs Assessment process. The board would like to refine what the Needs Assessment looks into based on what we learned from the first assessment and about the community since that time. The MHB discussed different avenues for identifying a partner for the next assessment including what other local boards are doing. We will work to amend our previous RFP to move forward with a plan for the next Needs Assessment.

d. Discussion of Possible Changes to the Social Agency Grant Application

We would like to add check boxes for agencies to identify their primary service focus (developmental disabilities, substance abuse, mental health). The application will be updated to note that we are prioritizing programming and general operating support, and remaining funds may be distributed for capital projects. Previous grantees will have a section to report on how their funds were used. A chart will be on the township website to help agencies determine if they should apply for grants from the township or the mental health board and dates for the processes. We will adjust the application to ask for agencies to provide data during the window of our fiscal year, even if it differs from their own.

e. Discussion of Quarterly Social Service Agency Networking Meetings

Staff member Monie would like the Vernon Township staff to take over the quarterly networking meetings and invite the grant recipients, with one meeting occurring in an evening. Member Garfield can provide information about historical meetings. The MHB will be notified of meeting dates as scheduled.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Thoren moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Garfield seconded that motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.